

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT A 03742 051320Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-05 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SCS-03 L-03 /060 W
-----057087 060320Z /64
R 051305Z OCT 77
FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6411

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, HA
SUBJ: INQUIRY CONCERNING HAITIAN PRISONER JEAN BOUCHEREAU

REF: STATE 233592

1. POLITICAL OFFICER DISCUSSED BOUCHEREAU CASE WITH INTERIOR MINISTER JEANTY ON OCTOBER 4. JEANTY SAID THERE WAS NO TRUTH WHATEVER TO REPORTS THAT BOUCHEREAU WAS RECENTLY, OR STILL IS, ALIVE IN TB SANATORIUM OR MILITARY HOSPITAL. JEANTY EXPLAINED THAT IT IS UNFORTUNATELY A HAITIAN TRAIT THAT WHEN A PERSON HAS A GRUDGE AGAINST AN INDIVIDUAL OR A FAMILY HE MAY SOMETIMES SEEK TO INFLICT PAIN BY INVENTING STORIES THAT TOUCH A KNOWN WEAK SPOT OF HIS VICTIM.

2. JEANTY SURMISED THIS MIGHT BE THE CASE WITH THE BOUCHEREAUS AND THAT HE SAID SO TO MRS. BOUCHEREAU WHEN SHE CALLED ON HIM SEPTEMBER 24 TO INQUIRE ABOUT HER HUSBAND. JEANTY SAID HE CHALLENGED MRS. BOUCHEREAU TO IDENTIFY THE INFORMANT CLAIMING TO HAVE SEEN HER HUSBAND ALIVE. MRS. BOUCHEREAU SAID SHE COULD NOT SINCE THE ALLEGATIONS WERE ONLY "HEARSAY." JEANTY WENT ON TO SAY THAT MRS. BOUCHEREAU HAD BEEN SUBSEQUENTLY ADVISED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH HIS SEPTEMBER 28 ANNOUNCEMENT (PORT AU PRINCE 3720), TO APPLY TO THE CIVIL TRIBUNAL OF PORT AU PRINCE FOR AN INVESTI-
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GATION OF THE DISAPPEARANCE OF HER HUSBAND AND POSSIBLE ISSUANCE OF A DEATH CERTIFICATE. JEANTY COULD NOT BE DRAWN OUT ON THE ACTUAL FATE OF BOUCHEREAU.

3. COINCIDENTALLY WITH CALL ON JEANTY, THE BOUCHEREAU CASE BECAME A MAJOR MEDIA STORY. MRS. BOUCHEREAU ADDRESSED AN OPEN LETTER TO PRESIDENT DUVALIER WHICH WAS PUBLISHED IN

THE OCTOBER 3 EDITION OF THE AFTERNOON NOUVELLISTE AND
BROADCAST BY MANY RADIO STATIONS THE FOLLOWING DAY. HER
LETTER, ASKING FOR INFORMATION ABOUT HER HUSBAND'S FATE,
PRAISED PRESIDENT'S RECENT ACTIONS SUCH AS AMNESTY AND
SIGNATURE OF SAN JOSE CONVENTION AS WELL AS HIS SEPTEMBER
22 STATEMENT THAT HE THINKS OF THE ENEMIES OF THE PAST
"WITHOUT HATE AND WITHOUT MALICE." IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE
GOVERNMENT WILL RESPOND TO THE LETTER BUT IF A DEATH CER-
TIFICATE IS ISSUED IN RESPONSE TO AN APPLICATION BY THE
BOUCHEREAUS THE FACT WILL CERTAINLY BE WIDELY REPORTED.
JONES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WELFARE & WHEREABOUTS, PRISONERS, ARRESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PORTA03742
Document Source: CORE
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770364-0220
Format: TEL
From: PORT AU PRINCE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771091/aaaaczvg.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b002f336-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 233592
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Date: 28-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
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To: STATE
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